



# SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

## SHANDON-SAN JUAN GSA

### UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES

#### December 8, 2025 Special Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Shandon-San Juan Water District (SSJWD) and Shandon-San Juan Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SSJGSA) held a special meeting on Monday, December 8, 2025, at 9:00am at the Illy Lodge at Illy Sunnyslope Farms located at 3385 Truesdale Rd., Shandon, CA 93461. As a courtesy, virtual options were made available for public participation. The agenda and all supporting documents were posted at <https://www.ssjwd.org/agendas-minutes>.

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#### **I. Call to Order**

Vice President Sinton called the meeting to order at 9:07am on Monday, December 8, 2025.

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#### **II. Roll Call**

Directors Present: Marshall Miller (remote attendance)  
Ray Shady  
Steve Sinton  
Matt Turrentine

Directors Absent: Willy Cunha

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#### **III. Public Comment**

No public comment.

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#### **IV. Consent Agenda**

The following motion was made by Director Turrentine, seconded by Director Shady, and passed 4-0 with a roll call vote.

**MOTION – Approve the minutes from the September 24, 2025 Board meeting and the Secretary/Treasurer’s Report dated December 5, 2025, as presented.**

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#### **V. Director’s Reports**

A. WRAC Meeting – No report.

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#### **VI. Paso Robles Area Groundwater Authority (PRAGA) & SGMA Implementation Updates**

A. Re-Cap of PRAGA Special Meeting on December 1, 2025:

- Approval of the revised Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget – excludes projects and management actions
- Approval of fund request to GSAs to contribute \$300,000 to fund operations from January – June 2026.
- Draft Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget and funding mechanism options will be presented at the February 18, 2026 PRAGA Board meeting.
- Approval of Amendment 1 with Hallmark Group to provide Executive Director services through June 30, 2026.
- Approval of contract with Confluence Engineering to develop the GSP Annual Report for Water Year 2025.

- January and February PRAGA Board meetings will be combined into one special meeting on February 18, 2026.
- Direction to PRAGA Staff to develop options for increased stakeholder engagement/representation and present at the February 18, 2026 PRAGA Board meeting.

B. Discuss SSJGSA's plans for community outreach:

SSJGSA and EPCGSA recently completed a contract with Tripepi Smith to develop and distribute four newsletters intended to inform stakeholders about SGMA and GSP implementation activities and updates. The Board expressed interest in continuing Tripepi Smith's services and has requested the development of measurable success metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of the newsletter campaign.

In addition, the Board discussed the potential engagement of Altum Aqua Logic, in partnership with EPCGSA, to host a series of public workshops aimed at gathering direct feedback from groundwater users. These workshops would provide an opportunity to better understand stakeholder concerns, improve two-way communication, and inform future GSA actions. A scope of work and budget will be developed and brought back to the Board for consideration at a future meeting.

Finally, the Board discussed the importance of aligning public relations and community outreach efforts with PRAGA and other partner GSAs to ensure consistent messaging, efficient use of resources, and a unified regional approach to stakeholder engagement.

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**VII. Consider PRAGA's Request and Invoice for Financial Contribution**

PRAGA is requesting financial contributions from member GSAs to support continued operations through June 2026. SSJGSA's share of the contribution is \$63,000. The SSJGSA Board discussed the necessity of this contribution to ensure PRAGA can continue essential operations through the end of FY 2025-26, including required SGMA compliance activities, technical support, and administrative functions. The SSJGSA Board requested the following milestones from PRAGA.

- February 2026 – annotated draft budget for FY 2026-27
- March 2026 – outline of funding mechanism
- April 2026 – annotated final budget for FY 2026-27

The following motion was made by Director Turrentine, seconded by Director Shady, and passed 4-0 with a roll call vote.

**MOTION – Approve the funding request from PRAGA in the amount of \$63,000 to support continued operations through June 2026.**

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**VIII. Discuss Fallowing Component of Multi-Benefit Irrigated Land Repurposing (MILR) Program Related to SSJWD's Assessment for FY 2026-27**

The Board discussed developing a policy to evaluate requests to change assessments from irrigated to non-irrigated acres, aligned with the upcoming Paso Robles Groundwater Basin MILR Program and Fallowed Land Registry Platform, which will document fallowed lands, support voluntary land repurposing to reduce groundwater use, and provide information for sustainable basin management. It is anticipated that Basin GSAs will use the Fallowed Land Registry Platform. Key considerations for SSJWD's policy include:

- Criteria for changing acreage status, including duration of fallowing, proof of fallowing, and enrollment in MILR Program.
- Timeline and procedure for reassessment if irrigation resumes.
- Timing of implementation of the Fallowed Land Registry and SSJWD access to the platform may not align with SSJWD annual schedule for levying FY 2026-27 assessments.

The Board directed SSJWD Staff to work with legal counsel to develop the framework for the policy.

**IX. Next Meeting**

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The regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 9am is cancelled. A special meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 9am.

**X. Adjourn**

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Vice President Sinton adjourned the meeting at 10:18am.

**Accepted:**

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Stephanie Bertoux, Secretary

February 4, 2026